

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6639

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EXDIS

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KING HUSSEIN OF JORDAN)

SUBJECT: KING HUSSEIN'S VISIT TO U.S., RECOMMENDATION FOR
STATE VISIT

REF: STATE 007846

1. PRIME MINISTER INFORMED AND PLEASED AT CONFIRMATION
DATE MARCH 30.
2. KING PLANS TO DEPART JAPAN MORNING MARCH 16 AND WE
PRESUME THIS WOULD INDICATE ARRIVAL IN HAWAII SOMETIME
EVENING MARCH 15 REPEAT MARCH 15. KING IS EXPECTED IN
MEXICO ON MARCH 25 AND WOULD THEREFORE DEPART HAWAII
ACCORDINGLY. ARRIVAL IN WASHINGTON PLANNED FOR SOMETIME
AFTERNOON MARCH 29 AND PARTY WOULD LIKE TO STAY IN
WASHINGTON THROUGH FRIDAY APRIL 2.
3. AS DISCUSSED INFORMALLY WITH NEA DURING MY
RECENT CONSULTATIONS IN WASHINGTON, BELIEVE IT MORE
IMPORTANT IN CIR RELATIONSHIP FOR THIS VISIT OF THE
KING TO BE A STATE VISIT. IT WILL BE HIS FIRST SUCH
OPPORTUNITY IN THE PRESENT ADMINISTRATION -- YOU WILL
RECALL THAT HE WAS FIRST VISITOR AT HEAD OF STATE
LEVEL AT WHITE HOUSE DURING FORD ADMINISTRATION BUT
THAT ALL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE VISIT HAD BEEN

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WORKED OUT DURING PREVIOUS ADMINISTRATION. IN ADDITION,

JORDANIANS OBSERVED WITH GREAT CARE SADAT VISIT AND WILL
OBVIOUSLY FIND COMPARISON DIFFICULT TO TAKE IF FORMAL
ASPECTS OF THEIR VISIT ARE AT SOMEWHAT LOWER LEVEL.
FINALLY GIVEN OUR LONG STANDING CLOSE RELATIONSHIPS, AND
SPECIAL CHARACTER OF THIS BICENTENNIAL YEAR, KING
I KNOW WOULD BE PLEASED AND VERY HONORED TO BE ACCORDED
STATE VISIT LEVEL TREATMENT.

4. IN TERMS OF MODALITIES, IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT
KING'S NORMAL PRIVATE VISIT INCLUDES MOST OF THE SAME
TYPE OF ACTIVITIES ACCORDED A HEAD OF STATE DURING A
REGULAR STATE VISIT WITH EXCEPTION OF SOME OF THE PROTOCOL "HONORS"
ATTACHED TO HIS WHITE HOUSE ACTIVITIES. CONSIDERING THE RELA-
TIVELY SMALL AMOUNT OF DIFFERENCE, I WOULD HOPE THIS
RECOMMENDATION WOULD RECEIVE EARLY FAVORABLE CONSIDERA-
TION IN WASHINGTON. THIS WILL BE A DIFFICULT YEAR
AHEAD FOR US IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND SMALL GESTURES
WILL GO A LONG WAY IN HELPING TO ACHIEVE OUR PROGRAM
OBJECTIVES. THIS IS ONE AREA WHERE IN MY JUDGMENT THE
CREATIVE ACT OF "PROTOCOL" CAN HELP OUR POLITICAL
POSITION IN MEASURABLE WAYS.
PICKERING

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